

Dear Parents,



Science Olympiad is a national non-profit organization designed to enhance the quality of science education, to increase student interest in science, and to provide recognition for student achievement in these events. The Science Olympiad tournaments are academic inter-scholastic competitions consisting of twenty-three team events for which students prepare during the school year. These challenging areas are well balanced between various science areas. There is also a balance of events requiring knowledge of science facts, concepts, processes, skills, and applications.

The team meets every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday during Choice Hour. This is a year-long class and the students need to participate in class at least two days a week. We will participate in four to six competitions next year. Three to four are invitationals that will take place on a Saturday in December, January or early February. These competitions will aid our team in preparing for the regional competition at Detroit Country Day in Beverly Hills, MI. The regional competition is scheduled for Saturday, February 29th, 2020 (8 am – 6 pm). If we are successful at regionals, we will have the opportunity to participate in the State tournament at Michigan State University on Saturday, April 25, 2020 (8 am – 8 pm). Please count on your child participating in each of these events and put them on the calendar now.

Students who are successful in their events work hard during school meeting times and outside school. Each student needs to work at home in order to be ready for the competition. Parent participation is essential to assist their child in gathering data, practicing, building and studying for their events. Please make sure your family is dedicated to being a part of the team and all of the preparation needed to be successful.

Students who wish to apply for the team must complete the application form and return it to me or with your Choice Hour selection sheet by Friday, June 7th. The 1<sup>st</sup> quarter next year is an audition period. Students will participate in mini-competitions to earn a spot on the final teams. I will take up to 30 students on the teams. The official team consists of 15 students in grades 6-9. These students will participate in all the competitions. Fifteen additional students will be a part of the alternate team. The alternates will participate in the invitationals and regional competition, but they will not be able to participate in the state tournament. The official team will be selected in the fall, before the end of the first quarter. A parent meeting will be held at that time. Students selected to audition for the team during the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter should email me for a complete list of 2019/20 rules or for summer materials if you are interested in working on a particular event over the summer. Information on the mini competition and activities to practice will be posted on our googledrive throughout the summer. Students and parents can email me to request access to the information.

The following site will have general information and dates as they become available.

<https://sites.google.com/view/bcsmiddleschoolso/home>

The list of students who make the fall choice hour audition period will be posted outside Lab 600-D by Tuesday, June 11th. Students who apply must list Science Olympiad as their first option on their choice hour sheet. If your child makes the team, they will be placed in the class. If they are not selected, they will be placed in one of their alternate choices. Students who don't make the fall choice hour initially may be invited to join the team during the first quarter if students drop out. There is a \$35 pay to play fee for this choice hour. Students who officially drop the class during the first quarter will receive a full refund from PTSA during November.

If you have any question please email me at [tbrown@birmingham.k12.mi.us](mailto:tbrown@birmingham.k12.mi.us)

Sincerely,

**2019 - 2020 Middle Level (Grades 6-9)  
Science Olympiad Application Form**

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**Student Information**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade next year: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Are you willing and able to meet during lunch?      \_\_\_\_\_ Yes      \_\_\_\_\_ No

Are you willing and able to meet after school?      \_\_\_\_\_ Yes      \_\_\_\_\_ No

Are you willing and able to meet on the weekends?      \_\_\_\_\_ Yes      \_\_\_\_\_ No

Are you willing and able to work at home?      \_\_\_\_\_ Yes      \_\_\_\_\_ No

Do you work well independently?      \_\_\_\_\_ Yes      \_\_\_\_\_ No

Do you have internet access?      \_\_\_\_\_ Yes      \_\_\_\_\_ No

Will you work on a building event (planes, towers, catapults, etc.), study (rocks, insects, maps, etc.) and/or prepare for the mini competition over the summer?      \_\_\_\_\_ Yes      \_\_\_\_\_ No

If yes, what would you like to work on? (go to <http://soinc.org> ) to see information about the events (Division B)

What skills do you feel you can contribute to the team? \_\_\_\_\_

What other activities are you considering participating in next year (math counts, yearbook, forensics, 6th grade sports, 7/8 sports, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_

If I am selected as a member of the team I will devote as much time as necessary to be the best prepared that I can be for the tournaments. I am aware that in order to make the official team I will need to participate in a mini competition in the fall. I am also aware that there will be information posted on the website that will help me to prepare throughout the summer and in the fall for this competition.

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent Information:**

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you willing to assist your child in preparing for their events?      \_\_\_\_\_ Yes      \_\_\_\_\_ No

Are you willing to coach an event (1 – 4 students)?      \_\_\_\_\_ Yes      \_\_\_\_\_ No

Do you have access to tools that could be helpful in building devices?      \_\_\_\_\_ Yes      \_\_\_\_\_ No

Are you willing to help students with the construction of devices?      \_\_\_\_\_ Yes      \_\_\_\_\_ No

What skills/knowledge/hobbies do you have that could be shared with the team? (Ex. Medical background, Engineering, Construction, Model Building, Science: Chemistry, Geology, Forestry, etc.)

If my child is selected as a member of the team, I will aid them in researching, organizing and practicing for their event throughout the year. I am also willing to offer my expertise to assist other children on the team. I know that Mrs. Brown will set up a meeting time in the fall to meet with all parents to begin organizing the team. I am committed to attending and helping in any way possible.

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_